

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/702,201

Examiner

Daniel J. Petkovsek

Applicant(s)

SAVCHENKOV ET AL.

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed May 3, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


AKM ENAYET ULLAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to the amendment filed May 3, 2005. In accordance with the amendment, claims 20 and 23 have been amended. The amendments to the specification have been acknowledged. Claims 1-23 are pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The prior art documents submitted by Applicant in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on May 3, 2005, have been considered and made of record (note attached copy of forms PTO-1449). It is noted that a typo by Applicant has been corrected on the initialed PTO-1449 form by the Examiner. Reference AG is actually U.S.P. No. 6,178,036, not 6,138,076.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-23 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the relevant prior art of record does not teach or reasonably suggest that the at least first and second optical resonators (supporting whispering gallery modes) are coupled to allow light to couple from one optical resonator to the second (plurality) of optical resonator(s), and in furtherance of the remaining claim limitations. The closest prior art of record (Vahala et al. U.S.P. No. 6,580,851) does not teach or reasonably suggest that the optical resonators are coupled together to allow optical signals to propagate through both resonators.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Response to Arguments


3. Applicant's arguments, see amendment with arguments, filed May 3, 2005, with respect to the current claim standing in view of the cited prior art and rejections, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 1-23 to Vahala et al. '851 and Vahala et al. '739 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Petkovsek whose telephone number is (571) 272-2355. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Daniel Retkovsek
July 8, 2005


AKM ENAYET ULLAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER